GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4722
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2002
DECLINE IN PERFORMANCE OF PURE SCIENCE
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Scientific Institutions in the country are decaying and India`s performance in pure science is declining, as reported in the `Hindu` dated March 30, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) to (c) The views expressed are personal reflections of an individual scientist. The Government has taken note of the importance of basic science in nation building and has introduced several programmes to encourage scientific activities and provide state-of-the-art facilities in scientific institutions including academic sector in the country. These programmes include R&D support through Science & Engineering Research Council, Fund for Infrastructure in S&T; initiatives in the form of motivational and training programmes and fellowships like National Children Science Congress (NCSC), Jawaharlal Nehru fellowships for undergraduate students, Nationa Science Olympiad Programme, Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY), opportunities for young scientists, Swarnajayanti Fellowship, Fellowships for training in leading laboratories abroad in chosen areas of science and technology, Biotechnology fellowships for students and scientists, CSIR programme on Youth for Leadership in Scie nce, opportunities to young science students for interaction with Nobel Laureates, visiting fellowships, summer schools and training programmes to enable students for interaction with scientists in national laboratories and centres of excellence, etc. Government has substantially enhanced funding for these activities in the recent budget.